

KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

UNITED STATES SENATOR • TEXAS

BIOGRAPHY

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Mr. South Texas (2005)
- W.B. and Brandon Carroll Humanitarian Award 2004
- Alliance for Aging Research, Distinguished Public Service Award 2004
- Women's Foreign Policy Group Inaugural Congressional Leadership Award 2004
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce Spirit of Enterprise Award 2004
- Association of American Medical Colleges, Special Recognition Award 2004
- Woodrow Wilson Award for Public Service 2003
- LULAC Legislative Recognition Award 2003
- U.S.-Mexico Chamber of Commerce NAFTA Congressional Leadership Award 2002
- John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Lindy Boggs Award 2002
- International Multiple Myeloma Foundation, Ribbon of Hope Award 2002
- Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, National Leadership Award 2002
- Ladies' Home Journal Magazine 30 Most Powerful Women 2001
- MANA Hermana Award 2001
- National Military Family Association Award for Service to Military Families 2001
- Border Texan of the Year 2000
- Green Key Water Resources Environment Award 2000
- CLEAT Award for Support of Law Enforcement 2000
- Texas Women's Chamber of Commerce 100 Most Influential Texas Women of the Century 1999
- Advocate for Education Award from The College Board 1999
- Texan of the Year, Texas Legislative Conference 1997
- Inducted into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame 1997
- Coastal Conservation Association's Silver Ingot Award 1997
- Republican Woman of the Year by the National Federation of Republican Women 1995
- Outstanding University of Texas Alumnus 1995
- Outstanding University of Texas Law School Alumnus 1995
- Named one of 20 Rising American Political Stars by USA Today Weekend (1990)

In 1993, Kay Bailey Hutchison was elected as the first woman to represent Texas in the U.S. Senate. Seven years later, more than four million Texans re-elected her to a second full term – at the time the largest number of votes ever garnered in the state. In 2004, she won a third term as Vice Chairman of the Senate Republican Conference, remaining the fifth-highest ranking Republican senator.

Defense and Foreign Policy

Senator Hutchison is a leading voice on foreign policy and national security issues and serves as a U.S. delegate to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe – commonly known as the Helsinki Commission.

As Chairman of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee and a member of the Defense Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator Hutchison plays a vital role in shaping America's defense policies. In 2003, she enacted legislation to create an Overseas Basing Commission to conduct a comprehensive review of the U.S. Military's global footprint to ensure we are prepared to meet 21st century threats.

As a member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, the Senator has fought for funding and recognition of the Gulf War Syndrome so veterans can receive treatment.

In the 108th Congress, Senator Hutchison helped pass the National Intelligence Reform Act, which included provisions she authored to ensure greater screening of air cargo and a more comprehensive review of surveillance information. The final language orders the Transportation Security Administration to codify measures such as a database of known shippers, security plans at facilities and worker identification cards.

Transportation

In the 107th Congress, the Senator served as Chairman and Ranking Republican of the Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Aviation, where she played a major role in drafting the landmark airline security bill passed by Congress after the September 11 terrorist attacks.

With the convening of the 109th Congress this year, Senator Hutchison will have an expanded role on the Commerce Committee by overseeing the nation's space exploration program as Chairman of the Science and Space Subcommittee, whose chief responsibility is to oversee the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

Education

The "No Child Left Behind Act," an historic education reform bill signed into law in early 2002, includes provisions written by the Senator to help recruit teachers from mid-career professionals and retirees; the parents' report card, which provides parents regular updates on the performance of their child's school; and remove barriers to local school districts that wish to offer single-sex schools and classrooms.

Senator Hutchison was instrumental in establishing TAMEST through her work with Research and Development funding in Texas. In 2000, Senator Hutchison announced that Texas ranked 5th in Federal Research and Development funding. Through her efforts to increase collaboration and raise the profile of Texas Research at Universities and Colleges, the Senator moved Texas to 3rd in Research and Development Expenditures.

Senator Hutchison grew up in La Marque, Texas, and graduated from the University of Texas and UT Law School. She was twice elected to the Texas House of Representatives. In 1990, she was elected Texas State Treasurer. In addition, Senator Hutchison can add author to her list of credentials. In June of 2000, she and her colleagues coauthored [Nine and Counting: The Women of the Senate](#), and she recently wrote her newest book in 2004 entitled, [American Heroines: The Spirited Women Who Shaped Our Country](#).

The Senator's Texas roots run deep. Thomas Rusk of Nacogdoches was the first Texan to hold the U.S. Senate seat she currently occupies. He and the Senator's great-great-grandfather, Charles S. Taylor, were friends and both signed the Texas Declaration of Independence. The Senator lives in Dallas with her husband and their two children.

